



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913  
PH (517) 373.7946 | FAX (517) 373.2678  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/stamas/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/stamas/)

For Immediate Release  
May 17, 2004

Contact: Michelle Lange  
(517) 373-7946

## **Sen. Stamas honored by National Kidney Foundation of Michigan**

**LANSING** – State Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland, was recently honored by the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan during their annual Lansing Champion of Hope tribute dinner.

The award recognizes men and women whose outstanding contributions in the fields of healthcare and public policy help provide eternal hope and healing to the citizens of Michigan.

“I am honored to be chosen as a Champion of Hope,” Stamas said. “The health of Michigan residents is a top priority. The statistics about chronic kidney disease are frightening and it is a highly preventable disease. We need to raise more awareness about chronic kidney disease.”

The two leading causes of kidney failure are diabetes and high blood pressure. Seventy percent of these cases could have been prevented with early medical intervention. Diabetes is at epidemic proportions, with the incidence of Type II diabetes in children on the rise, unheard of just a few years ago.

Approximately one in nine Michigan adults age 20 or older have chronic kidney disease and most are not aware of it. Chronic kidney disease is now the eighth leading cause of death in Michigan.

The mission of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is to prevent kidney disease and improve the quality of life for those living with it.

Proceeds from the event were used to benefit the prevention, treatment and research of chronic kidney disease and to increase awareness of organ and tissue donation.

###

Editor’s note: For a photograph of the event, please send an e-mail to  
[KFeinberg@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:KFeinberg@senate.michigan.gov).